

Date: 2/17/75

Aides Initial: HEH

Caption on Folder or File: (Print)

Stevenson, Arthur } -- HEH)

Cabinet 4 Drawer 2

Folder X File _____ (check one)

First Communication Dated 4/3/52

Last Communication Dated 10/31/64

Approximate Pages 60

Derogatory Information: Yes X No _____ (check one)

Describe Category: i.e. investigative, congressional, prominent persons, administrative, information, policy, personnel, information from other agency, (use miscellaneous category as little as possible): Prominent person

Ticklers Only _____ Originals Only _____ Both X

Describe General Content of File or Folder: (use separate page if necessary)

Folder with material inside marked "OC - DeLoach" includes summary memorandum of information Bufiles and copies of correspondence from and to Stevenson includes information that Stevenson alleged to be homosexual.

TOP SECRET MATERIAL CONTAINED

Folder 17

Howe, JOC, Reel 10, Stevenson

~~TOP SECRET~~

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

~~TOP SECRET~~

CORRELATION SUMMARY

Main File No: 94-40154

Date: 3/11/56

See Also: 9-16511 9-20574 9-22251 62-97886
9-16526 9-21996 9-22905 77-9141

Subjects: Adlai Stevenson

Date Searched: 10-20-55

Found As: Adlai Stevenson
Adlai E. Stevenson
Adlai Ewing Stevenson
Adlai Stevenson
Adlai Stevenson
Adlai Stephenson
Adlai E. Stephenson

Adley Stephenson
Adlai E. Stephenson
Adlai Stephenson
Adlai Stephenson
Adlai Stephenson
Adelaide Stephenson

Also Searched As: No further search.

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-2 TAP/aw
REASON - FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 7-29-93

This is a summary of information obtained from a review of all "see" references to the subject in Bureau files under the names and aliases listed above. No attempt has been made to exhaust all possibilities as to the names and aliases by which the subject may have been known. All references under the above names containing data identical or possibly identical with the subject have been included except those listed at the end of this summary as not having been reviewed. The term "SI" preceding a serial number shown in the block indicates that the serial so designated contains the same information as the foregoing serial. However it should be realized that the information in these serials may differ somewhat in detail although the facts are basically the same.

This summary is designed to furnish a synopsis of the information set out in each reference. Except where stated otherwise the original serial will contain the information in much more detail.

THIS SUMMARY HAS BEEN PREPARED FOR USE AT THE SEAT OF GOVERNMENT AND MAY CONTAIN INFORMATION NOT SUITABLE FOR DISSEMINATION.

Analyst

Peggy Ann Boss

PAB:lpz

Coordinator

Katherine S. Jackson

Approved

DEC 8 1988

Classified by 1565 SDP/KH

Declassify on: OADR

Per President's release

94-40154-23
~~TOP SECRET~~

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA

~~TOP SECRET~~

STEVENSON, Adlai Ewing, ex-governor; born Los Angeles, Calif., February 3, 1900; son of Lewis Green and Helen Louise (Davis) South; A.B. Degree, Princeton, 1922; J.D. Degree, Northwestern University, 1926; LL.D (Honorary) Illinois Wesleyan University, Northwestern University, Bradley University, Peoria, Illinois, 1949, Illinois College, Center College, Lake Forest College; married Ellen Borden; December 1, 1928; children - Adlai Ewing Borden, John Fell. Assistant managing editor of Daily Pantagraph, Bloomington, Illinois, 1924-25; admitted to Illinois bar, 1926; associate cutting, Moore and Sidley, lawyers, Chicago, 1927-33; special counsel A.A.A., Washington, D.C., 1933-34; partner in firm of Sidley, Austin, Burgess and Harper, Chicago, 1935-41; assistant to secretary of the Navy, Washington, D.C., 1941-44; Chief Foreign Economic Administration, Italy Mission, 1943; Far East Mission to Europe 1944; assistant to Secretary of State, Washington 1945. Adviser U.S. delegation, Conference on International Organization, San Francisco, 1945; U.S. delegate, U.S. minister, Chief U.S. Delegation, Preparatory Commission of United Nations, London, 1945; senior adviser U.S. delegation General Assembly of U.N., London, 1946; U.S. delegate General Assembly of U.N., New York, 1946 and 1947; Governor of Illinois, 1948-53. Democratic Presidential candidate, 1952. Served as apprentice seaman, U.S. Naval Reserve, 1918. Distinguished Service Award, Navy, 1945. Trustee University of Illinois, Woodrow Wilson Foundation. Director Illinois Children's Home and Aid Society, Director Immigrants Protective League, and Hull House, Chicago; director International House (University of Chicago), Chicago Council on Foreign Relations. Member American, Illinois and Chicago bar associations. Clubs: Commercial, Chicago, Attie (Chicago); Onwentsia (Lake Forest); Metropolitan (Washington, D.C.), Century (N.Y.). Home: Libertyville, Illinois. Address: 11 South LaSalle St., Chicago 3, Illinois.

(Who's Who 1954-55)

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

brought out such highlights as Stevenson's associates, comments, activities and organizational membership. (Detail set out)

62-96332-A
(10)

*Incompletion of title due to mutilated mail.

An article entitled "McCarthy Says Stevenson Gets Reds' Support", datelined Chicago, Ill., on 10-27-52, and appearing on page 1 of the "NY Herald Tribune", dated 10-28-52, set out a summary of the above speech by Joe McCarthy concerning Adlai E. Stevenson. (Detail set out)

62-96332-A
(10)

On 10-20-52, during a conversation in Vienna, Austria, between [redacted] Hollywood movie producer, and [redacted] Soviet Official, the latter stated that the [redacted] prefer that (Dwight D.) Eisenhower was defeated in the November Presidential election not because of a preference for (Adlai) Stevenson but rather because they felt an Eisenhower defeat would lessen his prestige in Europe.

[redacted] General Rot. 11-9-54

[redacted]

[redacted]

65-83088-1 p.11
(10)

Correlator's Note: The cover of this file indicates the following: "Information in this file cannot be disseminated outside the Bureau without the specific approval of Mr. Boardman."

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

A name check request was received from ONI (date not given) concerning Adlai Ewing Stevenson, III, son of Ill. Gov. Adlai E. Stevenson. Bureau files failed to reveal any references relating to him.

Bureau Memo 11-17-52
Re: Adlai Ewing Stevenson, III
Name Check Request
62-60527-31713
(13)

The Passport Division file of Mona Kay Karff, maintained by the State Dept., in Washington, D. C., contained a communication from Senator (William) Benton to Alice Curran, Special Projects Officer, Office of Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs, concerning Karff. Benton related in his communication that Karff had been invited to go to Moscow to represent the US in the Women's World Chess Championship but complained that she could not obtain a visa. Benton exclaimed that he was perplexed over the fact that she was forbidden to go and added, "I wonder if Adlai Stevenson would approve of this." (Date not clearly indicated.)

WFO Memo 11-18-52
Re: Mona Kay Karff,
was: IS-R
100-351758-58
(7)

(b)(7)(c)
(b)(7)(D)

The Springfield Division conducted interviews in early December, 1952, with [REDACTED] in connection with sexual abnormalities existing at Bradley University in Peoria. During the interviews,

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~
~~TOP SECRET~~

(b)(7)(D)
They advised it was reported that the [redacted] had identified Adlai Stevenson as a homosexual and had listed him with the President of Bradley University, David Blair Owen, as members of an exclusive group of sexually abnormal individuals in NYC; however the Agency would not be able to prove it in court.

Bureau Memo 1-6-53
Re: Bradley University, Peoria, Ill;
Information Concerning
103-20972-8 p.1,5
(8)
SI 103-20972-8 p.5,6,
(8)

(b)(7)(D)
On 2-6-53, [redacted] appeared at WFO and related information concerning her roomer, whom she suspected as being subversively inclined. She stated that on 2-5-53, [redacted] received a mimeographed letter on the back of which was a handwritten note asking her to join the editorial staff of the publication, "The Prospects", whose headquarters were at Bronzville, NY. The letter explained that the publication was to be sent to college students throughout the country and its purpose was to give them "academic freedom" and a "voice on political issues and humanitarian subjects of today." It was indicated therein that the idea had started with a small group in NY's Sarah Lawrence College and had extended to Calif.; further, that Adlai Stevenson was backing the idea and was to contribute an article to the first edition of the publication. Informant felt that "The Prospects" might be subversive in nature.

WFO Memo 2-9-53
Re: "The Prospects", [redacted]
[redacted] SI-C
100-398878-1 p.3
(8)

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

[REDACTED]

(S)

[REDACTED] (u) (D) (D) (D)

(b)(1)

FOI 3-17-39

100-32700-1208 p.1, 2

(u)

(S) (u)

(c)

[REDACTED]

(S)
(c)

T-6:

FOI 3-22-39

(b)(1)
(b)(7)(c)
(b)(7)(D)

100-32020-1337 p.13, 14

(S)

SI 105-14911-12 p.1, 3

(S)

(c)

(S) (u)

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

Known handwriting specimens of Roy Andrew DeGroot in the Bureau's possession in early 1953 included a copy of a typewritten letter dated 2-16-51 to Honorable Adlai E. Stevenson bearing the notation "This copy for layout"; a copy of a typewritten letter dated 2-17-53 to Honorable Adlai E. Stevenson from Roy DeGroot bearing the notation "This copy for text"; and a photostat of a letter dated 2-17-53 to Honorable Adlai E. Stevenson attached to which was a 3x5 routing slip dated 3-5-53. (Specimens not set out.)

NY Rpt. 3-27-53
Re: Roy Andrew de Groot was;
Election Laws; Perjury
65-1224-199 p.17
(10)

(b)(6) [REDACTED] (73)

61-1224-946 p.27

(1)

~~TOP SECRET~~

Carol Evans advised around April, 1953, that she was the personal secretary of Gov. Adlai E. Stevenson at his office in Chicago, Ill. She furnished two letters from the correspondence of Stevenson, who was then out of the US, from Roy Andrew DeGroot. One letter was a two page original typed communication addressed to Stevenson, dated 11-5-52, on the letterhead of DeGroot in NYC. There appeared an inked notation under the letterhead "ACK. BY FORM LETTER" which indicated that a form letter was used by Stevenson's office to acknowledge

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

This reference is a memo dated 11-9-54 from the Director to Messrs. Tolson, Boardman, Belmont, and Nichols relating that on said date, in conference with the AG, he was informed of a staff conference held on 11-8-54 concerning the Responsibilities Program. The AG advised that it was the thinking of those present that furnishing information regarding persons working in key areas should be continued, but that information about persons teaching in institutions should be discontinued.

According to the memo, the Director, when asked his views on this situation, pointed out that this program began as a result of a meeting of Governors with him years ago (date not given) whereby their primary purpose was to obtain information about persons teaching in state institutions as well as persons working in key areas for the state who would be considered dangerous to the security of the US. The Director particularly cited to the AG the concern of then Gov. Adlai Stevenson of Ill. that state legislators were beginning to move toward investigation of state educational institutions and that he, Stevenson, felt this would create a certain amount of witch-hunting whereas if Governors could be furnished, on a strictly confidential basis, information from the FBI, they could protect themselves from ill-considered inquiries by well-meaning legislatures.

The Director further stated that he advised the AG of his disagreement of the above group's decision, bringing out several aspects favoring his reasoning; and the AG consequently issued instructions to resume dissemination of information to the Governors. (Further detail set out)

62-97856-108

(3)

~~TOP SECRET~~

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : MR. A. H. BELMONT

DATE: April 12, 1960

FROM : MR. G. N. SCATTERDAY

SUBJECT: DAVID BLAIR OWEN
INFORMATION CONCERNING

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/18/85 BY 9116/1027/14

The Director has asked for a summary on D. B. Owen, 51, former President of Bradley University, Peoria, Illinois, who was found strangled to death on Thursday, 4-2-60, in a third-floor room of the Alton Hotel, a walk-up hostelry at 1007 E Street, N.W., Washington, D. C.

No investigation has been conducted of Owen by the Bureau who at the time of his demise was in Washington to testify before congressional committees on small boat harbor improvements as a representative of the Greater Santa Cruz (California) Chamber of Commerce. Owen was a graduate of Bradley University (1921) and from 1936 to 1942 was Director of Public Relations and a member of the University's English Department. He served as President from 1946 to 1952 when his resignation for health reasons was accepted by the Board of Trustees.

Bureau files reveal that

the trustees at Bradley University had learned that Owen was a homosexual and were endeavoring to place Owen on an extended leave of absence and then relieve him of his position as President in order to avoid as much publicity as possible.

and furnished unfounded information concerning Communist Party activities and the possible existence of an espionage apparatus at the University, the widespread use of narcotics on the campus, and the purchasing of grades by students.

A preliminary inquiry into these allegations revealed that rumors of Owen's homosexuality were reportedly initiated by Gene Melchior, a former Bradley basketball star involved in the fixed-games scandal, in order to pressurize the Bradley staff

1 - Mr. Parsons
1 - Mr. DeLoach

1 - Mr. Belmont
1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. Casper
1 - Mr. Callahan
1 - Mr. Conrad
1 - Mr. Felt
1 - Mr. Gale
1 - Mr. Rosen
1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - Mr. Tavel
1 - Mr. Trotter
1 - Mr. Tele. Room
1 - Mr. Holmes
1 - Miss Gandy

NOT RECORDED

INT. SEC.

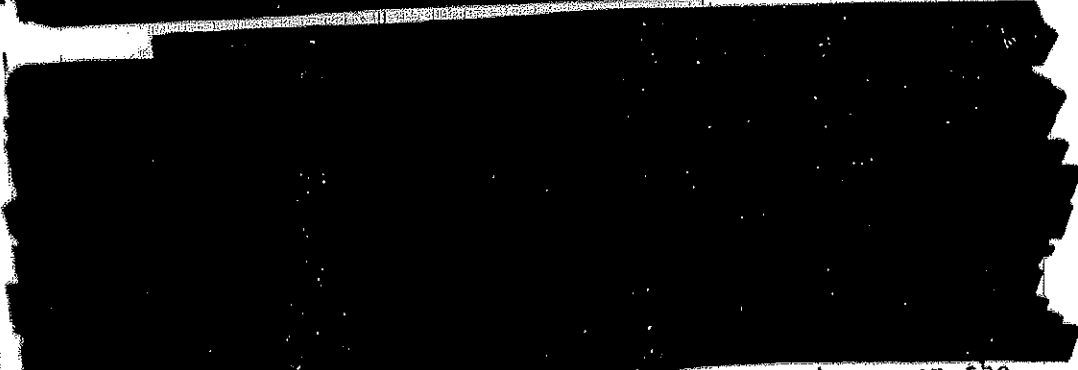

53 APR 21 1960

ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-3-1000

Memorandum to Mr. Belmont
Re:
DAVID BLAIR OWEN
INFORMATION CONCERNING

basketball scandal
to compel cessation of the investigation. Inquiry also developed that no information had been received by the Bureau's Springfield Division indicating existence of Communist Party activities or operation of an espionage apparatus on the Bradley campus nor had any information been received indicating the widespread use of narcotics or that money would purchase passing grades. A file check of the Springfield Division concerning Owen revealed that the rumors of his homosexuality were not confirmed by Peoria Police Department officials.

(b)(6)
(b)(7)(C)
(b)(7)(D)



Reportedly, Owen's indiscretions were not known on the Bradley campus.

The Identification Division records indicate that Owen on 2-17-56 was arrested by the Long Beach, California, Police Department as a drunk. The disposition indicates that the bail was forfeited.

ACTION:

For information.

2

23

4/11/56

4/12

Same 95
3 March 1953
memo
in Folder 143

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. D. M. Ladd.

DATE: March 3, 1953

FROM : Mr. E. R. Belmont

SUBJECT: BRADLEY UNIVERSITY ✓
PXYA, 101-115
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
BU-IND File 100-20970

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1/25/85 BY 9145/cz/gtt

SYNOPSIS:

The advised interviews with four members of the Bradley University Board of Trustees reflected no indication of Communist activity on the campus or on the part of individuals connected with the institution or to other matters within the Bureau's primary jurisdiction.

RECOMMENDATION:

In view of the fact that the advised interviews with four members of the Bradley University Board of Trustees reflect no indication as to the existence of Communist activity on the campus or on the part of individuals connected with the institution or to other matters, it is the Bureau's primary jurisdiction, it is recommended that no further investigation be conducted at this time.

114

has e

Handwritten signature and date: Mar 21 1953

Mr. Belmont

END

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : THE DIRECTOR
FROM : D. M. Ladd
SUBJECT: ADLAI STEVENSON
INFORMATION CONCERNING

DATE: August 15, 1950

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1/25/85 BY 9145/ST/gjt

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

ASAC Fletcher telephonically advised the Bureau on August 13 that [redacted] of the District Police Department had very confidentially advised Special Agent William Teloh, who, at the time, was with Robert Corrish, Hotel Credit Manager of the Mayflower Hotel, that he, [redacted] had been informed by a [redacted] formerly a Secret Service official but now retired, that there was some high official alleged to be spreading word that STEVENSON was a "queer"; that the FBI had a file on him. Further, that the Democratic National Committee was very angry about the situation. [redacted] stated he had no information by which he could identify the Bureau official concerned. Agent Teloh informed [redacted] and Mr. Corrish, who was present at the time, very definitely that there was no truth to this statement; that the Bureau had no file on Stevenson and knew nothing about this allegation and certainly that no Bureau official was making any such statement.

I instructed ASAC Fletcher to have [redacted] immediately interviewed and instructed to "put up" or "shut up", and to run this matter back to its source in order to stop any such erroneous rumor.

[redacted] when interviewed, advised that he had been furnished the information by an Attorney, [redacted] was likewise interviewed and stated that he had overheard a conversation at the Mayflower Hotel among some men at an adjacent table, whose identity he did not know, and they indicated that they had heard that Mr. Guy Hottel had indicated the "FBI had a file indicating Mr. Stevenson to be a 'queer'." [redacted] states he knows Mr. Hottel and knows that Mr. Hottel was not at the table at the time he had heard this conversation. He stated he has not seen Mr. Hottel for some time.

Mr. Hottel was interviewed and a statement obtained from him. Mr. Hottel stated that he knows [redacted] but has not seen him for some time. He categorically denied having made such a statement to anyone and states in fact, he could not have made such a statement because he does not know whether the Bureau does or does not have such a file by reason of the fact that he is working in the Fingerprint Division and would have no access to Bureau files.

All of the persons interviewed have been very positive in their statements that there is no truth to this rumor and that they

DL:lad

should immediately discontinue the repetition of such a false story.

There is a memorandum attached reflecting the results of the interviews referred to above.

August 14, 1952

RE: ADLAI STEVENSON
INFORMATION CONCERNING

(b)(6) In accordance with Bureau instructions, [redacted] was interviewed on August 13, 1952. [redacted]

During the interview he stated that in the past he had served with the U. S. Secret Service for a period of ten years. The sign on the door of his office indicates he is associated with [redacted]

When he was advised of the purpose of the interview, [redacted] did not appear to be surprised and exhibited a cooperative attitude. He stated he received the information, which was the subject of the interview, from an individual he described as a prominent local attorney approximately one week prior to August 13, 1952. When asked to furnish the name of this attorney he declined to do so, stating it is his opinion that this individual would refuse to discuss the matter with the Bureau Agents unless he was first contacted by [redacted]. He additionally indicated his refusal is based on the fact the information was furnished him in confidence by this attorney and he desired to confer with him also in that regard prior to furnishing his name. [redacted] agreed to contact this individual, if available, the morning of August 14, 1952, for the purpose of arranging an interview by Bureau Agents. In this regard he stated that when he was furnished the rumor involved by this attorney, he strongly cautioned this individual against discussing it with anyone else and impressed on him the seriousness of its nature and the various implications involved, particularly since the rumor had allegedly emanated from an FBI source. He stated that while not confident, he felt reasonably certain he could secure the approval of this individual to have his name divulged. Close contact is being maintained with [redacted] for the purpose of bringing this aspect to its logical conclusion.

[redacted] advised that when contacted by his attorney friend at the time indicated, this individual told him a friend of his had been in one of the public rooms at the Mayflower Hotel a few days prior to his relation of the occurrence and while there with a group of people, the rumor was discussed that the FBI has a file containing information which raises a question as to the moral character of ADLAI STEVENSON. When carefully questioned as to

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1/26/83 BY 145/9

94-40154-10X1
94-40154-10X1

2/6/1
his knowledge of the identity of the person in this group who made any such statement, [redacted] first stated it to be his understanding the statement was made by GUY HOTTEL. In further explaining his recollection he advised he might have been told by his source that GUY HOTTEL was present with this group at the time the rumor was being discussed but was not necessarily the person who initiated the discussion or even participated in it.

[redacted] was asked to explain his understanding, according to the rumor heard by him, of the specific nature of the alleged information in the FBI files. He stated he is certain this information was described by the words "moral character" and that no reference was made to homosexuality as such.

[redacted] was questioned carefully to determine his knowledge of the extent to which this rumor has been circulated. He stated he has discussed it only with Attorney General JAMES P. McGRANERY and assumes it is on the basis of this discussion that the matter came to the attention of the FBI. He explained that on August 11, 1958, he saw Mr. McGRANERY, whom he described as a personal friend, and told him of the rumor because of the political implications involved and because of the fact the Department of Justice had been associated with the rumor by reference to the FBI. He emphatically stated he has discussed this rumor with no one else and also informed, on the basis of questions designed to elicit this information, that he has heard this rumor from no individual other than the attorney friend in question. [redacted] advised he attended the recent Democratic Convention in Chicago and while there was told by other numerous friends and contacts of a rumor being circulated to the effect that ADLAI STEVENSON is a sexual deviate. He stated the rumors he heard in Chicago and from contacts since his return to Washington have tended to associate Mr. STEVENSON with the so-called "lavender hill" group of the State Department. He advised he has personally attempted to discourage the spreading of this rumor because of his personal belief it is untrue. In explaining this, he stated it is his opinion STEVENSON could not have been elected Governor of Illinois had this been a known fact and further advised it is his opinion STEVENSON would not last ten seconds as a presidential candidate if there were any truth to the rumors as to his alleged sexual perversion. He stated that because of his own political interests and contacts, he had discussed the Chicago rumor with [redacted]

but definitely

(b)(6)

stated he had not discussed the rumor associating the rumor with the FBI other than as already indicated. He particularly stated the Chicago rumor and the repetition of the same rumor in Washington in no way is associated with the name of the FBI.

During the interview it was clearly explained to [redacted] the rumor that the FBI has information reflecting on the moral character of Mr. [redacted] is not true and is completely false and without any foundation whatsoever in fact. It was made completely clear to him that the Director is most concerned over this rumor and is desirous of taking all steps possible to run it down to its source and to stop continued repetition of it completely. This was particularly emphasized in an effort to convince [redacted] that he should divulge the identity of his source of the FBI rumor in order that he would exert all effort possible to make this individual available for interview. In this regard, he indicated a most favorable attitude and promised he would do everything in his power to assist the Bureau in this matter. He likewise promised he would immediately contact this office if any further repetition of this rumor comes to his attention.

In endeavoring to have [redacted] identify all individuals with whom he had discussed the FBI rumor, every effort possible was made to do this ~~without revealing the identity of the source of the Bureau's information, namely, [redacted] of the Check Squad, Metropolitan Police Department.~~ He emphatically denied he discussed it with anyone except Attorney General [redacted].

This matter is being followed closely and the Bureau will be immediately advised of further developments.

August 14, 1959

RE: ADLAI STEVENSON
INFORMATION CONCERNING

(b)(6)
On this date, in accordance with arrangements previously made, [redacted] was contacted and he elicited the WFO Agents [redacted] where he introduced them to [redacted] an attorney with the firm of [redacted] explaining that [redacted] is the source of the information involved in this matter.

On the basis of extensive questioning, it was elicited from [redacted] that on July 31 or August 1, 1958, about 3 P.M., he went alone to the Town and Country Room at the Mayflower Hotel for the purpose of meeting an associate. He said he occupied a seat at a small table, alone, and while having a drink and waiting for his associate who did not appear, his attention was directed to conversation occurring at a table adjoining his which, he stated, was occupied by either two, three or four men. He advised his attention was called to them upon hearing the words, "PAT" and "OUR HOTTEL", this causing him from that point to pay attention to the conversation. [redacted] stated he cannot in any degree quote the exact conversation he overheard and informed in substance it was to the effect that one of the individuals at the adjoining table had heard that OUR HOTTEL had said the PAT had a file indicating ADLAI STEVENSON is a "queer". [redacted] stated he could not recall any additional conversation whatever, nor could he recall hearing any names mentioned other than as indicated. He stated he had never seen the individuals at the adjoining table before, has not seen them since and could not identify them. When asked to describe these individuals he stated he could only advise they were young or middle-aged businessmen and one of them might have been wearing eyeglasses.

[redacted] advised he has never heard the rumor in question from any other source at any other time, and the only reason that he paid any attention to the conversation in the first place was because he knows OUR HOTTEL, although he stated he has not seen Mr. HOTTEL for a considerable period of time. He stated he has discussed this rumor only with [redacted] explaining this discussion on the basis that he did so because [redacted] has had vast experience in the field of politics and numbers among his associates individuals close to the White House.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 1/26/85 BY 4145/cj/gel

44-140154-10X1

(b)(7)
In order to secure the information obtained, it was necessary to question [redacted] extensively and vigorously. He was evasive and fumbling in his responses and volunteered but little of the information which was obtained from him. He appeared to be considerably embarrassed during the interview and was concerned that his identity as the source of this information would become known to GUY HOTTEL and, in fact, explicitly requested that his name not be divulged to Mr. HOTTEL.

It was most clearly and explicitly pointed out to [redacted] that this rumor is completely false and that it is the desire of the Bureau to run it down to its source and to cause repetition of this rumor to stop. He assured the interviewing Agents he would immediately contact them if this rumor comes to his attention at any time in the future regardless of its form.

For the further information of the Bureau, [redacted] of the Check Squad, Metropolitan Police Department, and [redacted] have been definitely advised that the information [redacted] furnished has been carefully checked and is completely without basis in fact.

[redacted] has also been informed that [redacted] has been contacted and assured that his information is false.

August 13, 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR D. M. LADD

FROM: GUY HOTTEL

(b)(6) With reference to the information furnished to the Bureau by [redacted] alleging that he had received information from an unnamed individual to the effect that I had made a statement or been present in a group when a statement was made indicating that the FBI had a file containing information which raised a question as to the moral character of ADLAI STEVENSON, I desire to advise that this is entirely false. I could not have made any statement to the effect that the FBI has a file on Stevenson inasmuch as I have no knowledge as to whether the Bureau does or does not have such a file. Likewise, I desire to advise that I have not at any time made a statement to anyone or been with any group at the Mayflower when a statement was made by anyone else reflecting on the moral character of Mr. Stevenson. Any statement to the contrary is entirely false. 10-1

To the best of my recollection, it has been approximately a year since I have been in the Mayflower Hotel and the indication is that this alleged conversation occurred approximately a week prior to August 13. I most certainly have not been in the Mayflower Hotel during the month of August at all.

I wish to state that I take pride in the fact that I have never discussed Bureau matters with anyone outside of official business. I have also made it a practice to never discuss Bureau work even with my wife.

RECORDED-31

INDEXED-37

94-40154-10X

SEP 10 1952